SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/594,983	01/31/96	CURRY	S 20661/457

EXAMINER

22M2/0129

GREGORY, B

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PAPER NUMBER

5

2202

DATE MAILED: 01/29/97

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

☒ This application has been examined ☐ Responsive to communication filed on_____ ☐ This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____3_____ month(s), _____ days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
3. ☒ Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.
4. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152.
5. ☐ Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.
6. ☐ _____.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. ☒ Claims_____1-22_____ are pending in the application.

   Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. ☐ Claims_____ have been cancelled.

3. ☐ Claims _____ are allowed.

4. ☒ Claims _____1-22_____ are rejected.

5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.

6. ☐ Claims_____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. ☒ This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. ☐ Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. ☐ The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings
   are ☐ acceptable; ☐ not acceptable (see explanation or Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948).

10. ☐ The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____. has (have) been ☐ approved by the
    examiner; ☐ disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed _____, has been ☐ approved; ☐ disapproved (see explanation).

12. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has ☐ been received ☐ not been received
    ☐ been filed in parent application, serial no. _____ ; filed on _____.

13. ☐ Since this application apppears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in
    accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. ☐ Other

EXAMINER'S ACTION

PTOL-326 (Rev. 2/93)

1.   Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for

failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as
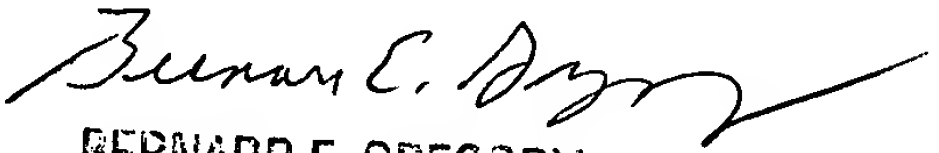
the invention.

Throughout claims 1-22, it is unclear what is meant by the uses of the word "module" in

context. On lines 11-13 of independent claim 1, "programmable to provide ... data processing

circuit" is indefinite and unclear in that it merely expresses the potential for the module to be

programmed to perform the desired function. In claim 4, "adapted to store" is indefinite and

unclear. It is unclear why there are two periods at the end of claim 4. In claim 6, "adapted to

receive" is indefinite and unclear. Dependent claims 2-5, 7-11, 13-16, 18-20, and 22 are unclear

in that they depend from unclear independent claims 1, 6, 12, 17, and 21.

2.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

Smith (U.S. Patent 4,731,842) and Penzias (U.S. Patent 5,577,120) are both of general

interest for showing systems and methods that are similar to Applicants' invention..

3.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner
should be directed to Bernarr Gregory whose telephone number is (703) 306-4153 and whose
FAX number is (703) 306-4195.

beg
January 24, 1997

BERNARR E. GREGORY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2200